### Arizona Administrative Register

#### Semi-Annual Index

# EXECUTIVE ORDER 2001-16 CREATING THE GOVERNOR'S FOREST HEALTH/FIRE PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, wildland fires in Arizona annually destroy property and renewable natural resources, damaging watersheds, wildlife and habitat, and threatening communities; and

WHEREAS, the threat of catastrophic wildland fires has reached its highest level in Arizona and is expected to remain high for many years; and

**WHEREAS**, the catastrophic wildland fire season of the year 2000 and concerns for future catastrophic wildland fires have commanded widespread attention from Congress, the Western Governor's Association, and the national media; and

WHEREAS, the January 2001 Arizona/New Mexico Forest Summit "Our Forests and Communities at Risk," recommended formation of a collaborative group to ensure continuation of regional efforts to mitigate the threat of uncontrolled wildfire to our communities and forests; and

WHEREAS, more than one hundred communities have been identified as "at risk" to wildfire and more than 500,000 acres of urban interface lands are highly susceptible to fire losses due to hazardous fuel conditions; and

WHEREAS, the risk of wildfires to people, communities and watershed is reduced by restoring and maintaining the health of fire-prone ecosystems through collaborative efforts at all levels.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jane Dee Hull, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Arizona, do hereby establish the Governor's Forest Health/Fire Plan Committee.

- 1. The Governor shall appoint members of the Advisory Committee who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
- 2. The Advisory Committee will have at least 13 members and will include individuals or representatives from each of the following:
  - a Native American tribe or an organization the represents Native American tribes
  - Arizona Association of Conservation Districts
  - 2 environmental organizations with an interest in protecting forests
  - Logging Industry
  - a consultant with experience in forestry
  - an organization with an interest in rural economic development
  - Arizona Fish and Game Department
  - 2 Universities in Arizona
  - a Municipal Fire Department
  - a County Supervisor
  - a mayor
- 3. The Advisory Committee shall:
  - a. Develop strategies to ensure continued public and political support for funding and resources required for community and ecosystem protection.
  - b. Help reduce litigation and delays in project implementation.
  - c. Develop and maintain Arizona's portion of Arizona/New Mexico "Regional Ten Year Comprehensive Plan for Reducing Wildlife Risk and Restoring Ecosystems."
  - d. Recommend project priorities and confirm funding needs for local community, State, tribal and federal lands to the Regional Executive Committee.
- 4. The Advisory Committee shall submit its recommendations to the Governor, the Arizona Congressional delegation, and the executives of state and federal agencies with fiscal responsibility for implementation of any proposed recommendations.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

## Jane Dee Hull

Governor

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this Seventh Day of August Two Thousand One and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Twenty-Fifth.

#### ATTEST:

**Betsey Bayless** Secretary of State

#### **EXECUTIVE ORDER 2001-17**

(Amending Executive Order 2001-16)

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